

Message Text

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SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----041062 241658Z /43
O 241641Z APR 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7975

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 07620

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DCM OF THE NEED FOR THOMPSON TO HAVE A VALID TRAVEL
DOCUMENT.

8. DCM SAID WE PLAN TO HAVE AN EMBASSY OFFICER JOIN
VOGEL AND THOMPSON ON ARRIVAL IN FRANKFURT FROM THE U.S.
FOR THE TRIP TO BERLIN. VOGEL SAID THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL
AND IN THIS CONNECTION ASKED US TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO
ENSURE THERE ARE NO DIFFICULTIES IN CONNECTION WITH
THOMPSON'S ENTRY INTO THE FRG. EMBASSY WILL TAKE ACTION
ON THIS POINT.

9. VOGEL ASKED ALSO THAT U.S. MISSION BERLIN PROVIDE
TRANSPORTATION FROM TEGEL TO THE MISSION FOR THE PARTY
ON ARRIVAL FROM FRANKFURT. IT WOULD THEN PROCEED
DIRECTLY TO THE MISSION AND WAIT FOR VOGEL'S WIFE TO
ARRIVE WITH NORMAN FROM EAST BERLIN. HE WOULD ARRANGE
FOR HIS WIFE TO CROSS INTO WEST BERLIN AT THE SCHEDULED
BERLIN ARRIVAL TIME OF THE FLIGHT FROM FRANKFURT ON WHICH
THE PARTY WILL TRAVEL.

10. VOGEL FURTHER ASKED THAT A U.S. MISSION BERLIN
OFFICER MEET HIS WIFE AND NORMAN AT THE INVALIDENSTRASSE
CROSSING POINT AND ACCOMPANY THEM TO THE MISSION. THE
REASON FOR THIS REQUEST IS TO MAKE SURE NORMAN STAYS IN
THE CAR AND ACTUALLY GOES TO THE MISSION. VOGEL'S WIFE

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COULD NOT PREVENT NORMAN FROM GETTING OUT OF THE CAR
AS SOON AS IT ARRIVED IN WEST BERLIN, IF HE WISHED TO DO
SO. THE PRESENCE OF A MISSION OFFICER WOULD REMOVE THIS
POSSIBLE DIFFICULTY. DCM SAID MISSION BERLIN WOULD MAKE
THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS. VOGEL'S WIFE WILL BE

DRIVING A TAN MERCEDES WITH THE LICENSE PLATE IBA 0-66,
REPEAT IBA 0-66.

11. EMBASSY BONN WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH VOGEL'S WIFE
AT HER PARENTS' HOME IN ESSEN LATER IN THE WEEK TO
CONFIRM THE TIME OF THE EAST-WEST BERLIN CROSSING, ONCE
VOGEL'S SCHEDULE TO FRANKFURT AND BERLIN IS FIXED.
DEPARTMENT PLEASE ADVISE WHEN SCHEDULE FIRM.

12. VOGEL SAID NORMAN WILL HAVE HIS PASSPORT, LUGGAGE,
AND PERSONAL EFFECTS ON RELEASE.

13. OTHER POINTS AND QUESTIONS THAT AROSE FOLLOW.
(1) PLEASE ADVISE US OF NORMAN'S MOTHER'S TRAVEL PLANS
TO BERLIN. (2) VOGEL WILL WANT TO SEE RICEY NEW, A
WASHINGTON ATTORNEY WHO WORKED WITH HIM IN PAST PRISONER
CASES. (3) VOGEL'S SON MANFRED, WHO IS WITH THE WEST
REPEAT WEST GERMAN TRADE REPRESENTATION IN MEXICO CITY,
MIGHT REPEAT MIGHT VISIT WITH VOGEL DURING HIS U.S.
STAY. (4) LEGAL ADVISER PFUND WILL BE THE EMBASSY
ACTION OFFICER FOR THE THOMPSON-NORMAN SCENARIO AND WILL
JOIN VOGEL IN FRANKFURT FOR THE FLIGHT TO BERLIN.
ASSUME MISSION BERLIN WILL DESIGNATE ACTION OFFICER
ALSO FOR LIAISON WITH PFUND AND OTHERS.

14. MAJOR ISSUE IN THOMPSON-NORMAN SCENARIO WHICH WE
HAVE NOT ADDRESSED IS PUBLICITY AND MEDIA COVERAGE. WE
MUST ASSUME FOR PLANNING PURPOSES THAT MEDIA WILL OBTAIN

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INFORMATION ON SPECIFICS OF EXCHANGE, INCLUDING DATE,
TIMING AND PLACE. IN THIS CASE THERE MIGHT BE
MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AT FRANKFURT, TEGEL, U.S. MISSION
AND INVALIDENSTRASSE CROSSING POINT. WE WOULD BE
GRATEFUL TO HAVE DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ON THIS ASPECT.
WILL CONGRESSMAN GILMAN BE PRESENT FOR NORMAN ARRIVAL IN
WEST BERLIN, AS FOR MARCUS RELEASE? THE EAST GERMANS
WOULD PREFER TO KEEP PUBLICITY AS LOW AS POSSIBLE, BUT
VOGEL AT LEAST IS REALISTIC AS TO THE LIMITS OF THE
SITUATION AND OUR ABILITY TO INFLUENCE IT. UNTIL OTHER-
WISE INSTRUCTED, EMBASSY AND MISSION BERLIN WILL REFER
ANY MEDIA INQUIRIES ON THE CASE TO THE DEPARTMENT,
WITHOUT COMMENT.
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